CLAIMS

- 1. The use of emulsions containing
- (a) polyol poly-12-hydroxystearates,
- (b) wax esters and
- (c) waxes

as impregnating and softening compositions for papers, nonwovens and cloths.

- 2. The use of emulsions as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that polyglycerol poly-12-hydroxystearates are used as component (a).
- 3. The use of emulsions as claimed in claims 1 and/or 2, characterized in that wax esters corresponding to formula (I):

 R^1COO-R^2 (I)

in which R¹CO is a linear or branched acyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms and 0 and/or 1 to 3 double bonds and R² is a linear or branched alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms, with the proviso that the number of carbon atoms in the ester is at least 20.

4. The use of emulsions as claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that waxes selected from the group consisting of candelilla wax, carnauba wax, Japan wax, espartograss wax, cork wax, guaruma wax, rice oil wax, sugar cane wax ouricury wax, montan wax, beeswax, shellac wax, spermaceti, lanolin (wool wax), uropygial fat, ceresine, ozocerite (earth wax), petrolatum, paraffin waxes, microwaxes; chemically modified waxes (hard waxes) such as, for example, montan ester waxes, sasol waxes, hydrogenated jojoba waxes and synthetic waxes such as, for example,

polyalkylene waxes and polyethylene glycol waxes are used as component (c).

- 5. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that emulsions containing based on active substance -
- (a) 5 to 25% by weight of polyol poly-12-hydroxystearates,
- (b) 50 to 90% by weight of wax esters and
- (c) 5 to 25% by weight of waxes,

with the proviso that the quantities shown add up to 100% by weight, are used.

- 6. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that emulsions with an active substance content of 0.5 to 80% by weight are used.
- 7. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that emulsions containing skin-care oils as auxiliaries and additives are used.
- 8. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that emulsions additionally containing nonionic, amphoteric and/or cationic coemulsifiers are used.
- 9. The use claimed in at least one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that emulsions containing active substances as auxiliaries and additives are used.

